The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Friday, the 2nd February 1923, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Pay of attenders in the Revenue department.

760 *Q.*—Mr. A. M. Ahmad Miran Sahib: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is a fact that attenders in the Revenue departments in mufassal are paid Rs. 12, while attenders with the same qualifications in other departments are paid Rs. 20 and upwards;

(2) if the answer is in the affirmative what is the reason for this difference; and

(3) whether the Government have on hand any proposal to increase the pay of the Revenue attenders to the level of that in other departments?

A.—(1) & (2) Attenders in the Revenue department in the mufassal have been placed in the scale Rs. 12—18. The work which these persons do could and should be done mainly by peons. In other departments a higher rate of pay has been fixed with reference to the nature of the work with which they have been entrusted.

(3) No.

Inspectors of co-operative societies in Ernad and Walavanad.

761 *Q.*—Mr. A. D. M. Bavotti Sahib: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of inspectors of co-operative societies in the Ernad and Walavanad taluks of Malabar;

(*b*) how many of them are Muhammadans; and

(*c*) whether the Government think that the present number of inspectors is sufficient for the two taluks?

A.—The information has been called for.

Water-supply in Salem town.

762 *Q.*—Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chettiyar: With reference to question No. 422 and the answer thereto, dated the 1st September 1921, regarding water-supply to private houses in Salem, will the hon. the Minister for Local